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## CHARITY CENTRE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN EDUCATIONAL

## SUPPORT PROJECT PROPOSAL

PLOT NO. 17686

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NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE

ZAMBIA

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**DATE: 14TH DECEMBER 2017**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

One of the worst impacts of HIV/AIDS in North-western Province of Zambia is the alarming growth in the number of orphaned children. At the moment, over 1.4 million children in Zambia have been orphaned on account of HIV/AIDS.

These children are a great burden not only to their extended families but also to the community at large and the nation in general. However, the greatest predicament facing these children is their resulting vulnerable situation. They are left with nothing to fall back upon following the death of one or both of their parents, who often will have sold most – if not all – of their property, including land, so as to meet medication costs and other needs during their long-term illness.

Children are Left behind with no source of support, most of these children drop out of school and engage into child labour, or worse still end up in the streets of the local urban centres. In fact, recently the number of street children has increased remarkably in Solwezi District which is the provincial capital of North-western province, just owing to the fact that most of these children resort to the street to survive.

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 **PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT SITUATION ANALYSIS**

The North Western province is the largest province in Zambia. It covers an area of 125,827 square km, representing about 16.8% of Zambia’s area coverage. The province is bordered by Angola to the west, Democratic republic of Congo in the North, Copper belt Province to the east, Central province to the south east and western province to the south. The province has nine districts namely; Kasempa, Ikelenge, Mufumbwe, Manyinga, Kabompo, Zambezi, Chavuma, Mwinilunga and Solwezi the provincial Capital and recently the president declared Kalumbila and Mushindamo as districts which will bring the total of District to Eleven (11). The province has an estimated population of 706,462 (Census 2010). The province hast forests covered by miombo woodlands, grasslands and dambos accounting for over 10% of the total area.

The living conditions for the population in North western province has remained poor with poverty levels standing at 76% and 72% in 2004 and 2003 respectively (LCMS 2004). The general poverty levels for people aged 15-32 years is 76% while extreme poverty in the same age group is 63% ( Census 2010).The extreme poor stood at 61 % while the non poor accounted for 24 % of the population. In spite of the new mines, the economy of the province is predominantly subsistence farming with emphasis on growing food. Many of the people especially those in the peri- urban areas live in temporal make shift brick houses. The sanitation in most of the areas is poor. Only 3% of the population has access to pumped water while 21% has access to a protected well. About 55% relies on unprotected well and 13% on stream/rivers. (LCMS 2004)

The prevalence rate of the entire province is relatively lower as compared to other provinces but Solwezi has had a steadily increasing HIV prevalence rate. Equally the mortality rate in the district has increased over the past years. A number of reasons could be attributed to the variations. Solwezi is the main urban district in the province where mining and other economic activities take place. Therefore a number of trade related activities take place which is a precursor for sexual activities and other vices such as alcohol consumption which has been identified as one of the drivers of the HIV epidemic (NAC 2004).

In terms of socio-economic activities Solwezi is becoming a household name in mining activities. After the reopening of Kansanshi mine and opening up of Kalumbila and Lumwana mine which is the largest open pit mine in Africa, which has attracted other economic sectors like financial institutions and small to medium scale enterprises resulting in tremendous population increase. The population explosion has exerted pressure on education facilities and other health facilities in the District.

The combination of death, illiteracy, disintegration of the extended family, HIV and poverty has also become a serious contributing factor to increased poverty and vulnerability of children and youth in the district. As parents die, children remain with guardians that have no jobs and have limited income to provide sustainable livelihoods for the orphans and vulnerable children. Increasingly, children and youth are abandoning their poverty stricken homes and taking to the street to piece life together. This District is the most affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic spreading in the country, and the rate at which children are being orphaned is alarming.

Elderly grandparents and already overburdened extended families do not shy away from caring for these orphans, but they are unable to do this satisfactorily, often as a result of a general background of abject poverty. This scenario is all too common in most homes in Zambia. Far from uncommon are homes with only grandparents and orphaned children trying to take care for each other, since both parties are unable to fend for themselves. As, however, grandparents are frequently in no position to cope with the basic needs of the orphans, these children are forced to look for alternative means of sustenance. They will in most cases resort to charcoal burning after school or the collection of fire-wood for sale at the local market.

This is the grim situation of a category of vulnerable children who need sustained assistance for a window of hope to be opened on their future. It is only through educating these young children that they can be equipped with the skills and knowledge to make them independent and viable members of their society in the future.

Our approach to this situation (forming the basis of this proposal) is through the provision of a multi-faceted support system to orphaned and vulnerable children in Solwezi District of Zambia. This would ensure that each of these orphaned children can attend school comfortably, with their living standards suitably improved on the way to an independent existence.

**PROJECT BACKGROUND**

**Introduction**

The Charity Centre for Children and Youth Development (CCCYD) is a community based organization that was established in Solwezi, in the year 2010. The organization was registered on 03/09/2010 with the registrar of societies and in the year 2014, the organization migrated to the registrar of NGOs under the Ministry of Community Development Mother and Child Health following governments’ directive. The organization has been approved as public benefit organization under the income Tax Act, Custom and Excise duty Act of the Laws of Zambia.

Therefore, the organization was created with the aim of helping Youth, orphans and Vulnerable children (OVC) in the society through micro-entrepreneurship program, OVC educational sponsorship, HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention programmes, vocational skills for self reliance and literacy skills.

CCCYD has so far provided educational support to over 700 orphans and vulnerable children at four (4) schools namely: Chamuta Community School, Kimasala Primary School, Muyoya Community School and Kimiteto Primary School. In 2016 the organization sponsored Chamuta primary school to connect electricity and creation of the computer lab with the support from the Australian Embassy. During 2017 summer, the organization started the construction of our own vocational skills training centre for orphans and vulnerable children with the support from student volunteers from Edinburgh Global Partnerships (EGP) from the United Kingdom. CCCYD is implementing an HIV and AIDS program in Solwezi District, it's main activities include capacity building through adolescent sexual reproductive health and rights, to ensure that child's health needs are met, psychosocial support to promote the child's social, mental and wellbeing and economic strengthening. The organization hopes to mobilize community and empower them to take responsibility for the well-being of OVC affected by HIV and AIDS through basic financial literacy training. Thus the strategies used are strengthening existing resources, coping mechanisms and support capabilities within the family and community stakeholders and outside resources. As an organization we are aware there are vulnerable children living with ill parents, and other child headed families but have no one to support them.

Currently the organization is running a micro-entrepreneurship program and provision of soft loans to over 260 women (OVC guardians) in Solwezi District with the support from International Charity for Africa (ICAfrica) which is based in Canada and Savings Bank foundation for international Corporation (SBFIC) from German. The aim of the project is to assist improve the income levels of orphans guardians for them to continue supporting their children.

The majority of our project aims to benefit poor women (particularly those keeping orphans), youth and orphans in Solwezi District. In the process of carrying out these activities, the organization has also gained immense first-hand experience concerning the real-life conditions of the most vulnerable children in the community. Most of the homes in the district earn very little to keep them going on a daily basis, and in order to be able to provide for a large family, the members and their children have to resort to some small-scale income-generating activities, which deprives the children of consistent school attendance.

**Socio-Economic Background of the Project Area**

Based on intake assessment survey conducted by CCCYD in 2011 and 2012, , it was evident that most of the orphaned children are left with the older grandparents who can hardly take good care of them. This situation has forced some of them to drop out of school owing to frustration, since the same child is often the one who has to resort to some income-generating activity in order to take care of their grandparents, since the parents who would have done that have since fallen victim to HIV/AIDS. This is a repeated pattern in most districts in North-western and it is a worrying trend because these children will hardly have any future if they are not allowed to attend school.

It is revealed that among the several problems facing communities living in the district the most common and most urgently in need of remedy are poverty, disease, lack of clean water, poor infrastructure and increasing unemployment. Poverty is prevalent against a backdrop of underdeveloped resources and poor infrastructure, as well as lack of access to credit in any form. Most of the people in Solwezi District depend on subsistence farming and micro-business for their survival

**OUR GOAL**

CCCYD overall mission is to provide hope/assistance to the very poor and disadvantage without any bias or discrimination whatsoever. It is this guiding principle that compels us to seek resources from donors and well-wishers all over the world to enable us to achieve our goal.

This project proposal is one of our efforts in the endeavour to continue serving the vulnerable and underprivileged in our society through a sustainable approach.

Its purpose is to seek external assistance for the school-age orphans in Solwezi District of Zambia, in order to provide them with basic school education that will enable them to acquire the skills and knowledge that they are going to need to become independent members of society in the future, thus reducing their vulnerability at the same time.

**OBJECTIVES**

(a) To provide direct basic assistance towards formal primary and secondary education for HIV/AIDS 700 orphans aged 7 to 18 years by 2018.

(b) To provide 700 orphans with basic health care aged 7 to 18 years by 2018

(c) To provide capacity building support to 200 orphans primary caregivers by 2018 through the provision of economic strengthening to OVC guardians

(d) To provide income generating activity through poultry broiler production to supplement and sustain the funded project by the end of the project.

In the majority of cases, in this category of children, dropping out of school is caused by the inability to pay fees or to meet other basic needs, such as school uniforms. In some cases, the drop-outs end up providing child labour to survive, most of them are sent to go and sale items on the street. This, in turn, increases their chances of getting them infected with HIV/AIDS, as they frequently adjust to the careless lifestyle particularly girls.

Very often, they end up undernourished, while some of them are involved in anti-social activities or – worse still – resort to stealing. Indeed, the current upsurge in the number of street children in the local market and in the neighbouring urban centres is a direct outcome of the severe poverty affecting these children on account of the death of one parent or both.

As if that were not enough, this category of children often faces stigmatisation, especially from their peers and even from some of their relatives at home, owing to the cause of their parents’ death. It is this category of children that this project proposal aims to support.

In conclusion, poverty as a result of disease is the greatest problems facing these children, and poverty bars them from attaining the education they would need to improve their future lives. Children are the category worst hit by poverty in the project target area.

Currently, HIV/AIDS has become a serious scourge and is the leading killer in North-western province where CCCYD is located. The gains previously made in life expectancy have largely been unmade by the high mortality rates resulting from HIV/AIDS. With deaths occurring at the rate of 12.92 deaths/1,000 population (2014 est.) on a national scale, many children are being made orphans, with siblings forced to live separately and lead desperate lives in deprived households headed by children or elderly persons. This prevents them from obtaining good education and many of them end up dropping out of school owing to frustration.

**BENEFICIARIES**

In order to promote its activities through grass-roots community support, CCCYD has a committee that represents different parts of the project area who have been mobilising communities at grass-roots level in order to identify and help orphans. The purpose is to target an initial 700 orphans in four different schools, each with an average of 150 extremely needy orphans, aged between seven and fourteen (7-18) years old. On the basis of these figures, it is envisaged that 700 orphans will be supported at the start of the project, with a subsequent spread of project support to other areas with time. Of all the targeted households in the project area, at least 80% are headed by women of ages ranging from 18 to 70 year old, with grandparents acting as guardians to these children.

**PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

Provision of support for the following activities/services will improve the quality of education and uplift living standards for these orphaned children and this is the core of this project.

**Formal Educational Support**

With the introduction of free primary education in the year 2002, it is hoped that the burden of providing for tuition fees textbooks and stationery has reduced for the struggling parents. Though this policy has been implemented in Zambia, still pupils are forced to pay what is called project fees and this is done through Parents Teachers Association (PTA). The law is yet to be effectively implemented in the schools, since it has been observed that in most schools some school-specific budgets not catered for by the Ministry of Education still remain the parents/guardians’ responsibility.

Despite the fact that the government of Zambia introduced free primary education, these children still require uniforms, textbooks, shoes, even sanitary pads for girls and basic stationery in order to attend classes without undue disruptions. The orphans are unable to attend school consistently or continue with their studies because of their inability to raise money for fees to ensure enrolment and retention in schools.

**Medical Care**

Children within these families are prone to infection from water-borne diseases such as malaria, typhoid, diarrhoea and bilharzias, amongst others. This is because North-western is a high-risk area for these infections. It is therefore imperative to set aside some money for the provision of basic care to the children, so that at no time a targeted child may suffer from any curable disease and not be treated in time to avoid complications. There would be some money per child allocated for this once the project kicks off. Also, through the purchase and provision of mosquito nets, the children’s chances of contacting malaria would greatly be reduced, Solwezi being a mosquito-infested area.

**Counselling for Guardians and Children (Capacity building)**

Experience has shown that guardians taking care of orphans are in dire need of counselling on how to handle children not their own. Orphans have been suffering from serious psychological problems because they are unable to relate to and confide in their guardians, with whom relations are lacking. There is a need to train at least 20 village based counsellors to visit these children frequently at their homes and provide them with adequate guidance services working hand in hand with three psychosocial counsellors from the organization.

The counsellor(s) would also be given the responsibility of monitoring the progress and performance of these children in schools and homes. Since the majority of these children are AIDS orphans, the counsellors will have the responsibility to assist the children on how to manage stigmatisation by colleagues in school. They will also act as guardians of the children during open days and parents’ days in schools. This is important for the emotional and psychological growth and development of the children.

 **Income generating activity (Poultry broiler)**

In order to sustain the project, there is need of the organization to be involved in income generating activities through poultry broiler production to supplement other activities that might not be covered in the project and for the future support of the project after the end of the grant.

**PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

**Human Resources**

Currently, the organization has Board of five (5) members and the management of six (6) people headed by the Executive Director. All the members off staff of the organization are volunteers who have the passion to assist orphans and vulnerable children in the community. The chairperson of the Board is a registered nurse from the government hospital. There are also lay persons who are non-executive members who also make up for a good share of volunteers.

**Financial Management**

The organization has a Bank account with Zambia National Commercial Bank (ZANACO). Our financial policy is that all the money spent is reflected in suitable receipts and thus accounted for. Ledger and cash books are maintained rigorously. Donors are kept up-to-date with financial records, according to their requirements. The same will apply with this project. Each funded project has a ledger to help us manage the resources coming from different sources through our account.

Below are the account details:

Account name: Charity Centre for Children and Youth Development

Account number: **1806808500152**

Bank name: Zambia National Commercial Bank (ZANACO)

Branch: Solwezi

SWIFT Code: [ZNCOZMLUXXX](http://swiftcode.a1feeds.com/Swift_Code.aspx?Swift_Code=ZNCOZMLUXXX)

**Local Participation**

To ensure community support and successful implementation of projects the organization works closely with the local communities, churches, relevant government ministries especially the ministries of Education (local primary schools), Department of social welfare, Health (local health facilities), and the Solwezi Municipal Council which has provided land to the organization where we have constructed the 1x2 classroom of the vocational skills training for vulnerable children.

The organization shall also select members from the community to be trained as volunteer village counsellors, whose roles will be to provide free counselling services to the orphans, their guardians and also in schools.

Collaboration with the local churches and schools will be required for free training facilities as well as arrangements for tuition payments and the de-stigmatization of AIDS orphans in schools.

**PROPOSED MONITORING SYSTEM**

In order to be able to have progress reports, as well as to make necessary adjustments on project activities, a monitoring system based on expected outputs is paramount. Both narrative and financial reports shall be submitted to the donor on either a quarterly or half-yearly basis.

This project is expected to have 4 major outputs which shall be monitored through various simple indicators as outlined on the indicators section below.

A) 700 Primary and Secondary School-age orphans from Targeted families enrolled and/or supported for formal primary and secondary school education by 2018

# INDICATORS

- 700 needy pupils/students identified by the first quarter

- Number of orphans identified for support per school

- Actual number of orphans enrolled and/or supported for primary and secondary school education per school

- Amount of tuition fees paid for supported orphans

- Amount of money spent on the purchase of uniforms, exercise books, health care and stationery for the orphans

B) A cadre of community representatives trained to carry out sustained counselling activities that would promote positive living between the orphans, their guardians and the community in general

# INDICATORS

- Number of community representatives trained as village counsellors

- Number of village counsellors carrying out counselling sessions

- Reported decrease in cases of stigmatisation of AIDS orphans in schools and within the community at large

- Increase in reported cases of positive living relations between orphans and their guardian

Monitoring tools

Project performance and progress shall be monitored using the following tools:

- Progress reports from the orphans being supported

- Interviews with beneficiaries

- Observations

- Supervision reports

- Reports from counsellors

- Project reports (monthly and quarterly)

- Interviews with influencers/partners

- End-of-year evaluation report

**EVALUATION**

To establish whether the project was carried out within time, costs and quality objectives planned, there will be an annual project evaluation. The mode of the evaluation should be agreed upon between CCCYD and the Stephen Lewis Foundation. However, it is expected that evaluation issues will focus around the project outputs.

**PROJECT IMPLEMENTATIONS TIMELINE**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project period of performance** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **Responsible persons** |
| Activity | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | 4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Full name and Position |
| Identification of beneficiaries | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Kapampa KapeyaProject Coordinator and Ms Rita Kayembe- Community Mobilization Facilitator |
| Provide support to orphans at primary |  | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | Ms Kapampa Kapeya Project coordinator |
| Provide formal educational support to orphans at secondary level |  | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | Mr Alex BwalukaExecutive Director |
| Provide health and nutritional support and economic strengthening to OVC guardians |  |  | x | x | x | x | x |  | x | x | x | x | Ms Precious KasewentaBoard Chairperson |
| Train 20 village based psycho-social counsellors |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Ms Rita Kayembe- Community Mobilization Facilitator |
| Implement income generating activity |  |  | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | Given Mulemba Accountant |
| Monitoring and Evaluation | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | Alex BwalukaExecutive Director |
| Auditing |  |  |  | x |  |  |  | x |  |  |  | x | Hired Audit firm |

**TOTAL PROJECT COST $ 127,002.5 (2018)**